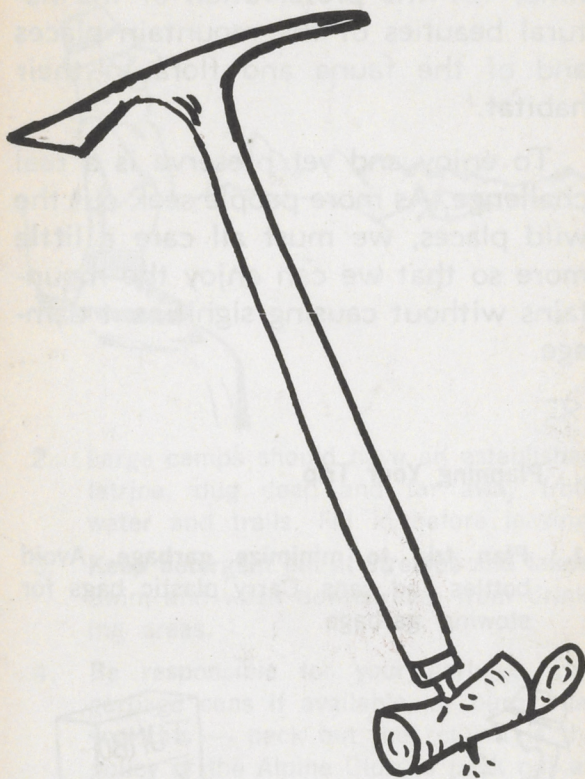


MOUNTAIN MANNERS



THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA

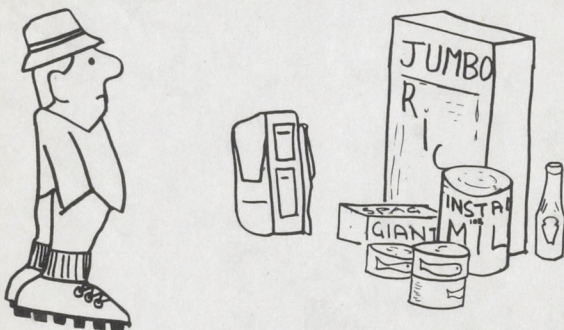
Policy of Conservation

The Alpine Club of Canada encourages (a) mountaineering and appreciation of the mountains, and at the same time, (b) the preservation of the natural beauties of the mountain places and of the fauna and flora in their habitat.

To enjoy and yet preserve is a real challenge. As more people seek out the wild places, we must all care a little more so that we can enjoy the mountains without causing significant damage.

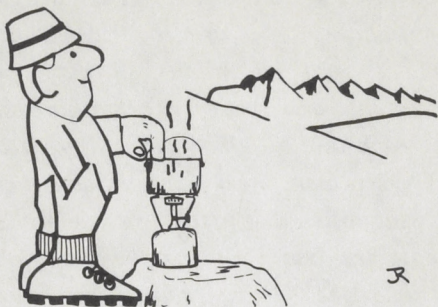
I. Planning Your Trip

1. **Plan trip to minimize garbage.** Avoid bottles and cans. Carry plastic bags for stowing garbage.



2. (a) **Determine fire hazard before trip.** It may be higher than you think. Get permission for campfires.

- (b) Take your stove and fuel. Deadwood is an important part of nature's cycle and is becoming scarce in some areas.



3. **Avoid use of motorized vehicles for packing.** They are a bad form of noise pollution and detract from the wilderness concept. If snowmobiles must be used, keep to trails.
4. **Minimize use of horses.** Extended use of horses destroys the top cover of soil, causing erosion. When horses are necessary, tie them away from campsite area and burn all hay or straw not used to destroy "foreign" seeds.

II. On the Trail

1. **Carry litter out.** Do not litter trails with orange peels, wrappers, plastic bags, etc. — they do not rot. It is not enough to hide litter under rocks or bury it in snow. Place in pockets or pack and encourage others to do the same.

2. If possible, **stick to regular trails.** Constant "short" cuts cause erosion and ruin the main trail.
3. **Do not pick flowers or shrubs.** If you enjoy them, so will others.



4. **Help care for trails.** Clean up trails — an ice axe is a perfect paper poker! Report to Warden trails blocked by trees or washed-out bridges.



III. At the Campsite

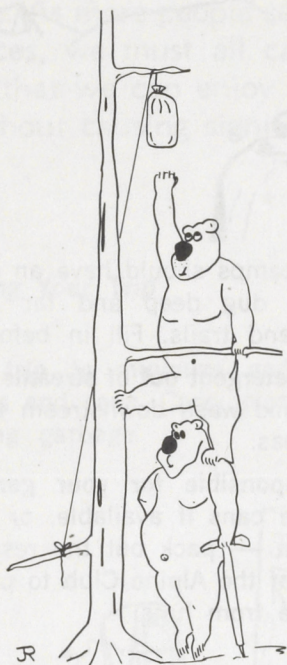
1. **Minimize campsite construction.** Avoid cutting boughs for shelter, using nails in trees, and digging bed sites. Change tent location periodically if on a long stay in one area. Try to leave the campsite as natural as possible.



2. Large camps should have an established latrine, dug deep and far away from water and trails. Fill in before leaving.
3. **Keep detergent out of streams and lakes.** Swim and wash downstream from drinking areas.
4. **Be responsible for your garbage.** Use garbage cans if available, or burn what you can — pack out the rest. It is the policy of the Alpine Club to pack out **all** garbage from huts.



5. **Leave green trees untouched.** Green wood is seldom necessary for use in a campsite, and in a Park, it is illegal to cut living trees. Use dead wood for wiener sticks, and a foam pad instead of spruce boughs. Assign one area for wood chopping and use chips to start fires. Use your stove as much as possible.
6. **Store all food sealed or hung away from animals.**

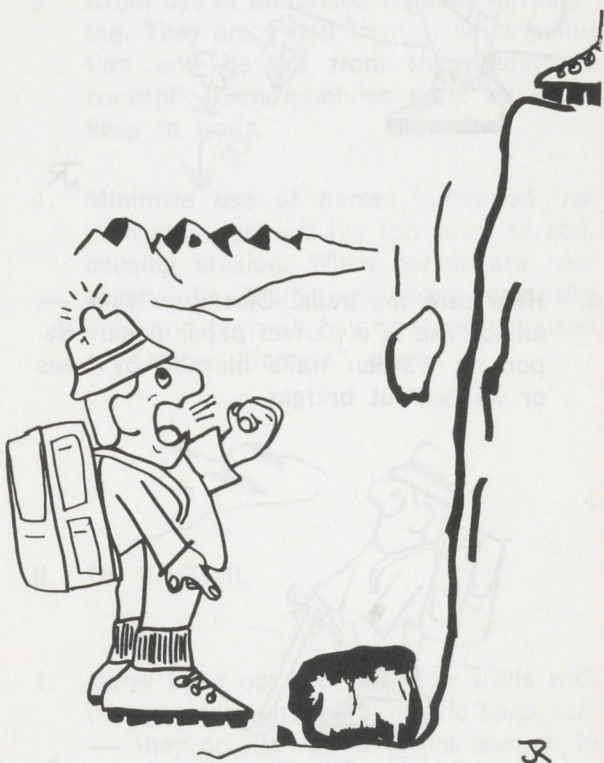


7. **Be careful with fires.** Clear campfire areas down to dirt. Watch for root ends which can smoulder right up to the trunk of the tree. Douse fires completely with water. When cleaning wood stoves, put ashes in garbage can or pit. Do not spread around campsite — they break down very slowly.

8. Clean up messy campsites. Discuss conservation with group members.

IV. On the Mountain

1. Carry out all garbage, including peelings.
2. Where feasible, remove hardware from routes, although on frequently travelled routes, secure pitons are best left in. This avoids enlarging the cracks unnecessarily by frequent replacement.
3. Remove willow wands in glacier travel.
4. Avoid knocking down rocks — vegetation is fragile.



*The top of the mountain was a great meadow, half a day's ride across, but do not picture it as a single amphitheater of grass, hedged in by a wall of pines. The edges of that meadow were scrolled, curled, and crenulated with an infinity of bays and coves, points and stringers, peninsulas and parks, each one of which differed from all the rest. No man knew them all, and every day's ride offered a gambler's chance of finding a new one. I say "new" because one often had the feeling, riding into some flower-spangled cove, that if anyone had ever been here before, he must of necessity have sung a song, or written a poem.**

Do your best to leave no traces of your visit and to permit the next visitor to have the same thrill of unspoiled, quiet wilderness that you enjoyed.

*A. Leopold, "A Sand County Almanac" (Oxford University Press, by permission).

THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA

Canada's National Mountaineering Club

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When you are through with this booklet don't add it to the litter on the trails. Pass it on to a friend.